



BROMSGROVE

CANDIDATE INFORMATION
FOR THE POST OF
HEAD OF ART



Senior Campus: looking towards Headmaster's Study and Administration

ABOUT BROMSGROVE

Bromsgrove is an ancient institution but a modern educational force. It is one of the biggest independent day and boarding schools in the country, with just under 2,000 pupils on the roll, that quietly delivers a top-notch education without all the fanfare that often accompanies a school of such depth, breadth and substance. Founded in 1553, it is also one of the oldest schools in the country but has kept up with the pace of change and delivers an education that is dynamic, progressive and rooted in care for the individual.

There are currently four schools in the Bromsgrove family: Bromsgrove Senior School, Bromsgrove Preparatory School, Bromsgrove Pre-Preparatory and Nursery, and Winterfold School, a 2–13 preparatory school and nursery which merged with Bromsgrove in 2016. In the Senior School, around half of the pupils are boarders representing more than 70 different nationalities. Bucking the national trend, boarding numbers are also growing in the Prep School, where almost 100 children board from the age of seven. In the Senior School there are 500 boarders.

Bromsgrove is a happy, unstuffy school where all are equally valued. Arrogance and pomposity are quickly exposed. Pupils are offered an education that is rounded and broad: for example, in the Sixth Form, A levels, the International Baccalaureate and BTECs are all on offer. Massive investment in facilities means co-curricular opportunities are outstanding. Whilst Bromsgrove is a large school, great care is taken to ensure pastoral care is personalised, and a thriving House system means a strong sense of belonging to a warm, inclusive and lively family is a keynote of the Bromsgrove experience.

With a contemporary and global outlook, Bromsgrove seeks to turn out young adults who have achieved at the highest level in a wide range of fields, who have a well-developed sense of community and the flexibility and resilience to deal with whatever life throws at them: in short, they are 'future-ready'.

BROMSGROVE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT:

FLAIR : DISCIPLINE : ACADEMIC RIGOUR

Bromsgrove School aims to produce: happy, creative, moral citizens who live motivated, fulfilled lives while enriching the lives of others.

It seeks to achieve this through an enlightened, disciplined and broad education that responds to global change while retaining core values.

The Core Values Bromsgrove seeks to foster in its pupils are: Humility and Confidence; Compassion and Ambition; Respect and Curiosity; Tolerance and Vision



Senior Pupils



Lower Charford Cricket Pitches

HISTORY

It's believed a chantry school existed for around 100 years before Bromsgrove School was officially founded as a Tudor grammar school in 1553. It was re-founded in 1693 by Sir Thomas Cookes, who also founded Worcester College, Oxford. In 1869, the Headmaster, George Blore, was one of the fourteen founding members of the Headmasters' Conference. During the Second World War, the entire School moved to Llanwrtyd Wells in Wales whilst the British Government used the School facilities. There is some mystery about what went on at the Bromsgrove site. It was certainly a retreat for the India Office, and some say the Churchill tank was designed there. It was during the School's time in Wales that the Prep School was established. Bromsgrove was a relatively small Anglican school until the late twentieth century, when it entered a period of rapid growth to make it the modern powerhouse it is today.

LOCATION AND CAMPUS

Bromsgrove is a small, leafy market town in Worcestershire surrounded by rolling countryside. It is very well connected, situated just 16 miles southwest of Birmingham (26 minutes by train to Birmingham New Street) and 14 miles northeast of Worcester. London is around 2 hours 15 minutes away by train, and Birmingham Airport is only a 30-minute drive away.

Although half of central Bromsgrove is taken up by the School's 100-acre site, it does not physically dominate the town. There is no iconic building or long driveway. It is like a secret walled garden, but its influence and importance to the local economy is immense. Like the young people it aims to send out, it makes a crucial difference to the community in a way that is creative, respectful and unpretentious.

Behind the walls, Bromsgrove boasts beautiful grounds – the main Senior School (1,074 pupils aged 13–18) campus is a tree-lined oasis. The Preparatory School (501 pupils aged 7–13) sits adjacent to the Senior School in its own 35 acres of grounds. The Pre-Preparatory and Nursery School (204 pupils aged 2–7) is two miles away, located in a Victorian mansion house with extensive grounds. Bromsgrove School merged with Winterfold School nine years ago; it has 284 pupils aged 2–13 and is situated six miles from Bromsgrove in a glorious rural setting.

A huge expansion programme over the past twenty years has led to a current roll of 2063 pupils aged 4–18, including just under 600 boarders. The attendant building programme has been massive, intense and imaginative. Projects include new boarding houses, a huge sports complex, eighteen new science labs, refurbished dining facilities and an impressive performing arts centre, which opened in 2017. Most recently, a new day house has opened, boarding houses have been refurbished and the staff common room and heritage centre have been modernised.



Music School and Routh Concert Hall



INTRODUCTION

Bromsgrove pupils are academically ambitious and resilient: their behaviour is exemplary. Whilst we are not an exceptionally selective school, we expect our pupils to work hard and fulfil their potential – around two-thirds achieve a 9-7 in each of their GCSEs and over a half achieve at least an A grade in their A Levels. In 2024 our IB Diploma students averaged 38.9 points. Government and University of Durham Alis Value Added data suggests our pupils' results in the Sixth Form are the best in the region bar none over the last few years. Given students' underlying ability, in 2024, our IB students' value added saw them outperform 98% of other independent schools. A Level value added was on the 78th percentile of independent schools and all GCSE subjects bar none saw positive value added. Over a quarter of our Year 13 leavers move on to undergraduate courses at World Top 50 universities, with UCL, KCL, Manchester, Exeter and Bath tending to be the most popular destinations.

We field nationally competitive teams in all main sports; we have been one of the top six ranked schools for sport nationally in each year over the last dozen years that rankings have been published. Staff are encouraged to support areas of extra-curricular life where they have a real passion and interest. Pastorally, the school is based on the House system. Each house has a Houseparent and a tutor team which caters for around 85 pupils. Almost all teaching staff are House tutors, each caring for around 12 pupils. Involvement with the boarding life of the School is most strongly encouraged.

The School is a hardworking environment - both the working day and week are long although terms themselves are relatively short. We offer a diverse range of opportunities for pupils and staff within a strongly academic and ordered framework. We seek to appoint teachers who are passionate about their subjects and the learning experience pupils receive. We aim for teachers to actively inspire and engage students by putting learning within the context of intrinsically interesting academic disciplines. The School encourages pupils both to reflect on their evolving ability as learners and to demonstrate their ability to learn and understand content and concepts.

THE POST

We seek to appoint an outstanding teacher to lead a strong Art, Craft and Design department which has enjoyed strong academic results in recent years. The new Head of Department will be the public face of the department, will be passionate about the subject and demonstrate flair whilst maintaining the very highest of standards – they will be able and have a real sense of drive and vision. They will seek to promote pupils' enthusiasm for Art both inside and outside of the formal curriculum. The School expects to see high levels of pupil recruitment into the subject within the Sixth Form and robust value added results. Students should be encouraged to develop a genuine love of the creative arts through experiencing a broad range of media whilst developing their aesthetic sensibilities. In short the new Head of Department will seek to further drive up pupil recruitment and ensure that the quality, depth and variety of the School's Art offer is beyond reproach.

The successful applicant will hold a strong first degree in a practical Art related subject and will ideally also hold a PGCE, but being an independent school, we are free to appoint the person who we think will most effectively lead this subject area.

The Art Department has a breadth and a depth to the work it undertakes. Art, Art Textiles and Photography are currently offered for GCSE (where the AQA specification is followed). There is the opportunity to offer a still broader range of endorsed courses. Art is also offered at both Standard and Higher Level within the IB Diploma Programme. We currently have 143 students taking an arts GCSE course (from Year 9) whilst 21 students are taking an Arts course in the Sixth Form, the majority being A Level students. In all qualifications sat, we expect our artists to achieve positive value added given their underlying ability. In addition, every year we expect a number of Upper Sixth to be supported in their applications to Art Schools and for undergraduate courses in architecture and History of Art.

The Department does not currently seek to find the formula required to please examiners – the variety of pupils work and the range of mediums they are prepared to work in is as striking as the high quality of their creativity. We pride ourselves on having no 'house style' and encourage pupils to believe in themselves as practitioners.

The Art Department offers pupils a wide range of media and techniques. Resourcing is excellent and textile equipment rivals that of any Foundation Course with facilities for screen printing, sublimation fabric printing and foil embossing. Artist workshops are an important part of the curriculum and pupils are given the opportunity to work with practitioners on a regular basis. A large number of trips are run both nationally and abroad.

Art is taught in large well lit and relatively open plan studios, with a separate mezzanine area for Upper Sixth studio spaces. There are three colleagues in the Department who are line managed by the Head of Department who is themselves line managed by the Deputy Head Academic.



The person we appoint will be enthusiastic, ambitious, organised yet flexible –we seek a lead art teacher with flair and drive. This is an exceptional opportunity to develop a broad and varied department. However, first and foremost there is a warm, constructive and industrious atmosphere within Common Room in general and the Department in particular and a willingness amongst our student body to work hard whilst being challenged.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply, please complete the online application form.

We hope to draw up a short-list for the vacancy on Friday 17th January and to interview soon after this, although we will contact exceptional candidates at the first opportunity. For an informal discussion regarding the post, please contact Mr Peter Ruben, Deputy Head Academic at pruben@bromsgrove-school.co.uk .

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening including checks with past employers and the DBS.

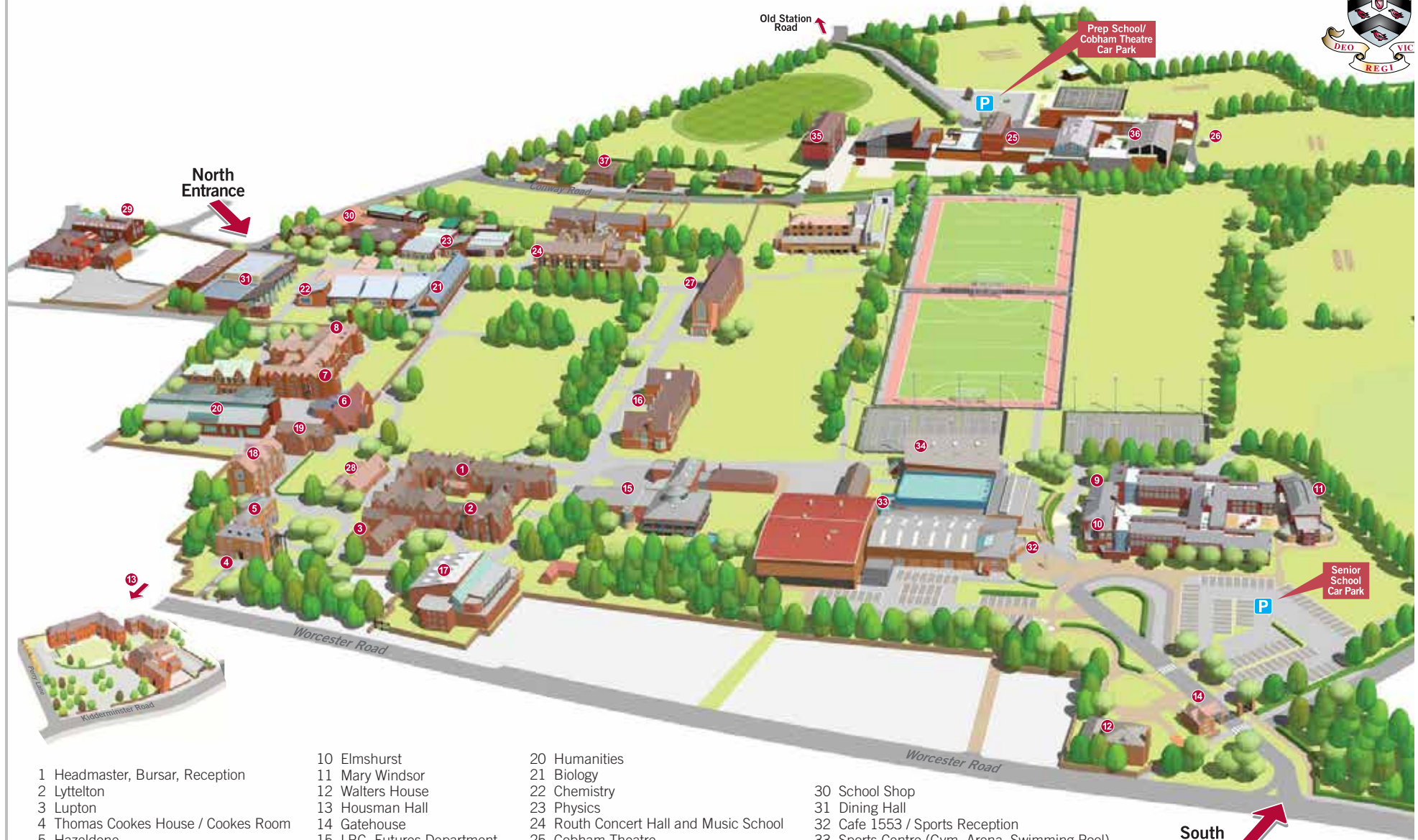
PERSON SPECIFICATION

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Experience/Qualifications		
Strong degree in relevant subject	*	
Post-graduate degree		*
QTS		*
Skills, Knowledge and Abilities		
Strong verbal and written communication skills	*	
Ability to meet deadlines	*	
Strong personal portfolio of own practice	*	
Personal		
Motivated	*	
Approachable	*	
Interested in personal development	*	
Interested in personal development of colleagues	*	





BROMSGROVE SCHOOL - SENIOR SCHOOL



- 1 Headmaster, Bursar, Reception
- 2 Lyttelton
- 3 Lupton
- 4 Thomas Cookes House / Cookes Room
- 5 Hazeldene
- 6 Otilie Hild House
- 7 Wendron-Gordon
- 8 School House

- 10 Elmshurst
- 11 Mary Windsor
- 12 Walters House
- 14 Gatehouse
- 15 LRC, Futures Department
- 16 Kyteless
- 17 ADT
- 18 Big School

- 20 Humanities
- 21 Biology
- 22 Chemistry
- 23 Physics
- 24 Routh Concert Hall and Music School
- 25 Cobham Theatre
- 26 The Observatory
- 27 Memorial Chapel
- 28 Old Chapel

- 30 School Shop
- 31 Dining Hall
- 32 Cafe 1553 / Sports Reception
- 33 Sports Centre (Gym, Arena, Swimming Pool)
- 34 Hospitality Suite
- 35 Webber
- 36 Prep School

**South Entrance
B61 7HP**

One of the UK's leading co-educational boarding and day schools.
2060 pupils aged 2 - 18

Bromsgrove School Worcester Road Bromsgrove Worcestershire B61 7DU
www.bromsgrove-school.co.uk
+ 44 (0) 1527 579679